

Filed for intro on 04/29/98

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 853
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to pay tribute to the late Coach Jim May and the 1997 Oneida High School football team.

WHEREAS, under the able guidance of one of the greatest Tennessee high school football coaches of all time, the late Jim May, the 1997 Oneida High School football team etched another admirable chapter into its glorious history; and

WHEREAS, the highly regarded squad had a memorable regular season, compiling an enviable 9-1 record, with impressive victories over York Institute 42-6, Cloudland 35-0, McCreary County, Kentucky 42-7, West Greene 57-8, Coalfield 14-7, Cosby 38-0, Oakdale 42-7, Powell Valley 60-6, and Sunbright 55-7; and

WHEREAS, in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A state playoffs the Indians defeated Copper Basin 61-6, Greenback 21-7 and South Pittsburg 34-7 to reach the semifinal round, where they lost to the eventual state champion Trousdale County; and

WHEREAS, Oneida compiled an overall record of 12-2; and

WHEREAS, the powerful Oneida offense scored 508 points, an average of 36 points per game, while their stingy defense gave up just 89 points, an average of a mere 6 points per game; and

WHEREAS, they were ranked the third best team in the state; and

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WHEREAS, they finished the successful season with many fond memories both of their victories and most importantly of their late coach and mentor, Jim May, who was chosen the Regional Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Coaches were Jim Burchfield, Keith Henry and Jimmy May; and

WHEREAS, the players were: Derek Lawson, Jonathon King, Matt Smith, Jordan Smith, Seth Billingsley, Jacob Billingsley, David Stephens, Michael Laxton, Daniel Jacobs, Caleb Thompson, Heath Phillips, Dustin Garrett, Dustin Burke, Dustin Terry, Jerimiah Hughett, Will Parker, Jake Lowe, Trevor King, Cody Mullis, Chris Pierce, Allen Throop, Cleve Boyatt, Dustin Posey, Dustin Jeffers, Michael Chambers, Ben Huff, Matt Harris, Malachi Chenowith, Adam Chambers, Dustin Phillips, Aaron Hamby and Jamie Mays; and

WHEREAS, Oneida was strongly supported by their fine principal Rick Harper; and

WHEREAS, the cheerleaders were: Jaclyn Reed, Miranda Ryan, Stacy Anderson, Rachel Laxton, Angel Phillips, Sabrina Byrd, Jordan Murphy, Sonni Sexton, Amanda Sexton and Pamela Stanley; and

WHEREAS, the team was fortunate to have a great support staff, including Denny Smith; statisticians, Max Huff and Shane Trammell; and managers, Jessica Jeffers, Brandi Phillips, Andrea Marlow, Derrick Strunk and Zach Daniels; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pay tribute to the late Jim May and the 1997 Oneida High School football team, which despite tremendous adversity continued to play with high standards and values, both on and off the field, standards and values instilled by the coach; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Jim May and salute his numerous accomplishments and the crucial role he played in the success of the 1997 team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we honor and congratulate the 1997 Oneida High School football team and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.